



GEAR UP Michigan! Scholarship Fact Sheet Academic Year 2013-14



Description

Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) is a federal program designed to provide early intervention services and programs to students in middle schools and high schools. The mission of GEAR UP is to significantly increase the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. "GEAR UP Michigan: Reaching the Urban Centers" targets three urban public school systems: Detroit, Flint and Muskegon. Students who participated in these cohort groups may be eligible for a GEAR UP Michigan! Scholarship.

Application

Each participating GEAR UP Michigan! cohort group provided a rank order list of 2007-2011 graduating seniors who have participated in the program. Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG) awarded scholarships to the highest ranked students based on the amount of scholarship funds available. **Students are responsible for notifying the SSG of a change of address or college choice.**

Program Limits

Students may receive scholarship assistance for up to four academic years within five years of high school graduation. The maximum amount a student can receive for one year is equal to the maximum Pell Grant award funded for the academic year immediately following the student's date of high school graduation. GU funds may be used for educational cost, including Estimated Family Contribution (EFC); not to exceed the cost of attendance. Future awards are subject to available and approved funds.

Eligibility

General eligibility requirements include:

- Have successfully completed the GEAR UP Michigan! six-year program.
- Possess a high school diploma or GED certificate.
- Initiate postsecondary enrollment prior to age 22.
- Demonstrate financial need by being eligible for a Pell Grant for the first year of the award.*
- Enroll at least half time at an approved Michigan community college, public university or independent, degree-granting college or university.
- Be a Michigan resident prior to enrolling in college.
- Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or approved refugee.
- Not be incarcerated.
- For renewal, meet institution's satisfactory academic progress (SAP) policy for scholarship continuation.
- Must not be in default on Federal/State student loan.

*Non-Pell eligible students may be awarded if funds are available.

Order of Scholarships Awarded to Students

The Federal Pell Grant must be awarded first; other public and private grants, scholarships or tuition discounts second; the GEAR UP Michigan Scholarship third; and then other financial assistance. (For example: Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) is restricted to tuition and mandatory fees only, whereas GEAR UP Michigan funds can be used to cover any educational expenses.

For More Information

Visit www.michigan.gov/ssg. Contact the GEAR UP Michigan! Scholarship program, **Student Scholarships and Grants**, toll-free at 1-888-4-GRANTS (1-888-447-2687), e-mail ssg@michigan.gov or fax at (517)-241-5835.

